



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL RETARDATION AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

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David M. Lyon to Direct Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute in Danville

Richmond—James S. Reinhard, M.D., Commissioner, announced today that he has hired David M. Lyon as director of Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute in Danville. Mr. Lyon replaces Dr. Connie Fletcher who recently retired. Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute is a 72 bed facility which provides acute care and active treatment for people with serious mental illness. Mr. Lyon will begin working at the facility on November 12.

Dr. Reinhard said, "Dave Lyon brings strong leadership, plus financial management and planning skills to the job of facility director. In his previous job as hospital administrator of a mental health institute in Iowa, Mr. Lyon built a reputation for professional integrity and skilled management, coupled with kindness and compassion toward both patients and staff." Gerald E. Deans, Assistant Commissioner for Facility Management, said, "Mr. Lyon will be an asset to the facility, the Southside community, and the state system of services. In Iowa, he had a well-established track record of working to expand and support clinical services through outreach to community public and private providers. He developed model programs for children and adults, and led the implementation of those programs."

Mr. Lyon is leaving the position of Hospital Administrator, Mental Health Institute, Independence, Iowa, where he served as chief financial officer and operating officer since 1984. From 1974 to 1984 he was Program Administrator for the Department of Human Services in Des Moines, Iowa.

In 1998, Mr. Lyon received the Governor's State Top Achievement Recognition (STAR) Award for increasing all of the state mental health institutes' daily Medicare reimbursement by \$1.13 million yearly, retroactive to 1983. In 1993 he received the Governor's Volunteer Award. In addition, he served three terms as Chairman of the State of Iowa Business Managers' Association, an organization of chief financial officers and chief operating officers of the 15 state facilities.

He is a founder and former Board member of Community Living Foundation, a privately funded foundation providing financial assistance to families in Iowa, enabling a developmentally disabled family member to remain in his home rather than be institutionalized. He was a Board member of the State of Iowa Judiciary Selection Board, 1st District. This board nominates candidates for judgeships to the Governor. He serves as a volunteer firefighter at the Mental Health Institute, and is a former board member of the Buchanan County Fair Board, Independence Chamber of Commerce.

He holds a Master of Business Administration from Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa. From 1970-1975, Mr. Lyon served his country as Captain in the U.S. Marine Corps, and as a member of the Marines Corps Reserves from 1967—1970.